



RECEIVED

2017 SEP 13 P 3:01

Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Avenue NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20268-0001

POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION

RE: Docket No. RM 2017-12

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing on behalf of Rainforest Action Network, a 501(c)(3) organization, our donors, and, most importantly, the animals, plants, and people who live in rainforests around the world.

We are a grassroots organization with many individual supporters and small donors and we rely on the U.S. Mail to raise funds and communicate with our supporters and constituents. Without the mail, our fundraising would suffer severely and, as a consequence, so would our mission. If mail costs rise, we either have to send less mail and raise less money, or spend more of our organization's budget on mail instead of on protecting rainforests around the world.

Simply put, it seems egregious to markedly raise nonprofit mail rates to marginally benefit commercial marketing mail. This change is counter to the law granting nonprofits a discounted rate. What's more, it would negatively impact nonprofit budgets and ability to serve our missions in a significant way, all just to add a thin layer of profit to commercial businesses.

If our postage rates were to increase, say, 5%, and produce a corresponding 5% loss of revenue, we would, for example, not be able to support indigenous communities struggling to protect the rainforests they have lived in for thousands of years.

Please do not change the current system for calculating nonprofit rates. Implemented by the Postal Service ten years ago, we see no pressing need for a change, especially not one that will do harm to all nonprofits using the mail.

Sincerely,

Gabriel Rosenstein
Donor Systems Associate
Rainforest Action Network